

P.P.S. Rowan Class

September 2022
Autumn Term

Where in the World?

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Rowan Class, I hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday.

This term we are beginning with a focus on where we are in the world. Through **geography** we will learn more about Petworth and the surrounding area along with where the town is situated in the UK.

We will be learning which countries make up the UK, and the capitals of each country. We will begin to learn the names of the continents and the world's seas.

After half term, the children will investigate geographical similarities and differences between Petworth and London through studying the human and physical geography of Petworth and comparing these findings with research about London. The children will use aerial photographs to create maps to use on a walk around Petworth, they will compare this walk with

London using Google Earth to explore London's streets.



In **design and technology** the children will investigate wheels and axels. This will involve planning and evaluating their design and the building process. We should have some super models to display at the end of our project.

In **computing** the children will use technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content; using cameras to take photographs of the local area, editing, saving and printing them. E-safety is very important to us in a digital world and therefore the children will recognise how they can use technology safely and respectfully, understanding that it is important to know where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact from strangers on the internet.

In **art and design** lessons the children will explore a range of art by artist Paul Klee, creating their own interpretation of his work. They will also be finding out about artist Asya Kozina, who is an amazing sculpture artist.

In **Religious Education** the children will learn about the church as a space to worship. They will discover the features and artefacts found in the church and the importance of special or sacred places in their own lives and those of others. We will be writing Harvest poems ready for the Harvest festival. In the second half term the children will be discussing Gospel and the good news Jesus brings.



This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects comments on the annual report.





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In **science** the children will be finding out about 'Living things and their habitats' and will learn to distinguish between mammals, amphibians, invertebrates, birds, reptiles and fish. They will look at the differences in habitat, animal movement and skin type. Using our school grounds, we will be investigating natural habitats and micro-organisms.

They will also be learning about animal life-cycles and investigating the similarities and differences between adults and their young in the animal world.

Physical Education lessons are on a Wednesday and Friday. Children can come to school in their P.E. uniform. They will take part in games which will extend their agility, balance and co-ordination. In gymnastics the children will be travelling in different ways, making shapes and linking movements. In dance, we will practise movements and simple sequences with an end goal of creating short dances in small groups.

We have started the term in English lessons, with letter writing using the text 'Dear Teacher'. We will be writing adventure stories, creating poetry and leaflets. Throughout our English work, there will be an emphasis on using sentences containing adjectives, as well as the correct use of punctuation. Understanding nouns, writing questions and exploring conjunctions such as 'and', 'but' and because to extend sentence lengths will be taught. Handwriting lessons to ensure the correct formation of both upper and lower case letters will be a daily feature.

The children will be beginning the school year by developing their understanding of place value, recognising the value of each digit in a 2 digit number and understanding

the role of 0 as a place holder. They will apply this knowledge when comparing numbers using the $<$ and $>$ symbols and when solving place value problems.

We will move onto using place value to help solve the operations of addition and subtraction using apparatus and written methods. Recall of number facts (pairs to 10 and 20) and the 2,5 and 10 times tables will form part of our daily mental maths. We will be doing lots of counting, forwards and backwards to reinforce confidence in sequencing numbers.

Homework: please read with your child as much as possible. The children will be issued with a reading book chosen for their stage of phonetic knowledge and they are also able to choose a library book weekly, which can be a shared reading time with a family member. Please make a note of any reading that your child carries out at home. We have a reading reward system in place in class and the children are keen to make sure they are travelling along the 'Reading Road'.

The children will be provided with spellings every week which will be a mix of Year One/Two curriculum words and spellings related to the phonics focus being covered. We will be reinforcing spelling patterns, letter blends and phonemes from year one, so there may be occasions where some spellings are a repeat from previous learning. This will ensure each child's confidence and security in phonics knowledge.

This year we will (I'm sure) be able to return to a proper school Christmas performance. We look forward to this, and inviting you in for a 'live' show.

Please feel free to drop a note into school should you wish to speak to myself or Mrs Groves. We are available for any important hand-over information each morning and anything that may take a little longer, please catch one of us at the end of the school day.